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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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1-17-1930

## Justice (Vol. 12, Iss. 2)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 12, Iss. 2)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteous  
ness I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."  
—Job 37:8

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers  
of the world  
unite! You  
have nothing to  
lose but your  
chains."

Vol. XII. No. 2.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1930

PRICE 3 CENTS

## Schlesinger Reelected President of International by an Enormous Vote

**Receives 20,353 Votes in Referendum—Dubinsky and Ninfo, Elected Secretary-Treasurer and First Vice President, Respectively, Poll Over Nineteen Thousand Votes Each—Nagler, Heller, and Feinberg New Members of General Executive Board—First Referendum in History of International a Huge Success.**

The first referendum vote for general officers in the history of the International, which took place on Tuesday, January 7, proved to be an enormous success. Over twenty-three thousand members participated in the voting, a number which exceeded the rosiest expectations of the most ardent champions of the referendum.

The participation in the referendum was particularly large in New York, where there was keen rivalry among the candidates for members of the General Executive Board. There was vigorous campaigning in front of the polling places by the rival factions. Various slates were distributed, and the partisans of each slate urged its election upon the assembled throngs. The election committees of the various locals worked energetically all day and everywhere there was perfect order. The National Election Committee went from polling place to polling place and supervised the election.

The balloting commenced early in the morning and ended at 8 P. M. The counting of the votes lasted all night, while in some locals it was not over until the afternoon of the following day.

The big vote cast in the referendum offers conclusive evidence of the popularity of this democratic measure with the membership of the International. And the result of the voting shows unmistakably how great is the confidence of the rank and file in our leaders, all tried and never found wanting. Brother

Benjamin Schlesinger, reelected President of the International, had 20,353 votes cast for him, and only 677 against; Brother David Dubinsky, elected General Secretary-Treasurer, had 19,739 votes cast for him, and only 796 against, while Brother Salvatore Ninfo, reelected First Vice President, had 19,140 votes cast for him, and only 783 against.

(The complete, tabulated returns of the referendum will be found on pages 6 and 7.)

### The New General Executive Board

Benjamin Schlesinger, Pres.  
David Dubinsky, Gen. Sec'y.-Treas.  
Salvatore Ninfo, 1st Vice-Pres.

Max Amdur, Boston.  
Luigi Antonini, New York.  
Morris Bialis, Chicago.  
Joseph Breslaw, New York.  
Israel Feinberg, New York.  
Jacob Halpern, New York.  
Jacob Heller, New York.

Julius Hochman, New York.  
Abraham Kirzner, Canada.  
Charles Kreindler, Cleveland.  
Philip Kramer, Boston.  
Isidor Nagler, New York.  
Elias Reissberg, Philadelphia.  
Harry Wander, New York.

## Cleveland Garment Workers Victorious

**Under the Personal Leadership of President Schlesinger, They Gain Most of their Demands in One of the Shortest Strikes on Record; Fight Continues With Redoubled Vigor Against Handful of Recalcitrant Manufacturers.**

(Special Correspondence of Justice)

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—After a strike which lasted only three days (Jan. 7-10), an overwhelming victory was won by 2,500 Cleveland cloak and dress makers employed by the Garment Manufacturers' Association and independent union manufacturers of this city.

After the strike had been in progress three days, the more discerning among the manufacturers figured they had had enough and capitulated by signing an agreement with the Union.

The terms of the agreement, affecting at least 11 of Cleveland's largest manufacturers, include:

1. The immediate establishment of the five-day 42-hour, instead of the 44-hour week, as at present.
2. Inside manufacturers agree to confine their outside production exclusively to union contracting shops, thus aiding the fight against the sweatshops.
3. That any question, affecting guarantee one week's wages in contracting shops in the event of default by the contractor.
4. Preference of work for all Cleveland cloak and dressmakers before goods are sent outside the city to be made up.
5. That an question, affecting changes in the guarantee of employment clause in the old agreement, may be raised by either of both sides and

submitted to the Board of References for full hearings and a decision.

The agreement was made public at a mass meeting of 2,000 garment

strikers at Public Hall on Jan. 10. The strikers greeted the agreement with tremendous cheers and almost unanimously ratified it. The only dissent-

ers were six Communist malcontents, who were booed when the vote was taken. It was also unanimously voted to tax all returning workers 5 per cent of their weekly wages as long as the strike is conducted against the open shop manufacturers, grouped in the American Plan.

Through prominent union officials, all the financial resources of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and member locals throughout

(Continued on page 2)

## Cloak Shop Chairmen to Aid Dressmakers

**Stirred by the Eloquence of Schlesinger, Hochman, and Nagler, Meeting of Shop Chairmen of Cloak Industry Unanimously Adopt Resolution Pledging the Fullest Measure of Support and Cooperation in Forthcoming Dress Strike.**

Last Wednesday Evening, January 15, at a large meeting of the shop chairmen of the cloak industry, the New York cloakmakers gave a striking demonstration of their sense of labor solidarity. This demonstration took the form of a unanimously adopted resolution pledging the fullest aid to the dressmakers in their forthcoming strike.

The meeting, which took place in the same Webster Hall that had been the scene of a great gathering of dress shop chairmen six days earlier, was called by the Joint Board for the purpose of enlisting the active support of the cloakmakers for the coming battle of the dressmakers, who are trying to win for themselves the same conditions of work and standard of living which the glorious cloak strike

of last July gained for their brothers in the cloak trade.

The meeting was opened with a few brief but pointed remarks by Brother Max Stoller, who presided. He then

### NAGLER REELECTED GENERAL MANAGER OF JOINT BOARD

Simultaneously with the referendum for the General Officers of the International a referendum was held for the election of a General Manager of the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board. Brother Isidore Nagler, the previous General Manager, was the sole candidate for the office, to which he was reelected by a large number of votes.

introduced the first speaker, Brother Isidore Nagler, General Manager of the Joint Board.

Brother Nagler started out by giving a vivid account of the chaotic condition of the New York cloak industry in the three years preceding the general strike of the cloakmakers last July. Things then looked hopeless, and even the leaders were pessimistic. But with the return of Brother Schlesinger to the helm of the International, new life, a new spirit, was infused into our members, and plans began to be made for improving the lot of the cloakmakers upon the expiration of the then existing contracts with the employers. These plans culminated in the glorious cloak strike of last July, which rehabilitated the Cloakmakers' Union, gained infinitely better conditions for the workers, and installed in

(Continued on page 2)

## Cleveland Garment Workers Victorious

(Continued from page 1)

the United States and Canada, it was promised, would be thrown behind the efforts to bring the open shops to terms.

Shops that are signatory to the agreement are: Campen Bros. Co., Keller Kohn Company, S. C. Klein & Co., Goodman Cloak Co., Sigelman and White Co., Prince Wolf Company, Pollack Forsch Company, Famous Dress Company, Pollack and Altman Co., Schwartz Bros. Dress Company, Morris Schwartz Company.

A tremendous union gain was also seen in an understanding reached with the Prints - Biederman Company, against whom the union has called off its strike. The Prints - Biederman Company has consented:

1. To establish the 42-hour working week beginning Monday.

2. To assume the responsibility for one week's wages of the workers in any of its contracting shops in case of default by the contractor.

3. Not to tolerate sweatshops, as the firm is in complete sympathy with the efforts of the union to abolish such shops wherever they may exist.

4. To abide by the conditions provided for in the agreement just signed between the Cleveland Garment Manufacturers' Association and the Cleveland Garment Workers' Union.

President Benjamin Schlesinger was thunderously applauded by the strikers upon his appearance at the meeting. The newly-elected International General Secretary-Treasurer, David Dubinsky, who arrived that day from New York, Vice-President Elias Reisberg and other strike leaders were also applauded when they appeared.

President Schlesinger, Abraham Katovsky, Louis Friend and Charles Kreindler explained to the gathering various aspects of the agreement before the ratification. It was characterized as a tremendous victory for the union, achieved in the shortest garment strike on record—three days.

When Communists at the meeting sought to disturb the speakers, both President Schlesinger and General Secretary-Treasurer Dubinsky pointed out the sharp contrast between the disastrous 26-weeks garment strike conducted in New York by the Communists when in power in 1926 and the local success here.

In declaring that the strike will be continued with unabated vigor against the American Plan, Katovsky declared:

"We shall not rest until they will admit they are not big enough to fight our Union."

Schlesinger, pursuing the same task, declared amid cheers:

"We do not want to drive anybody out of business, but if they want to force themselves out, we cannot help it."

Predicting that the 40-hour week is inevitable for the year 1931, Bro. Schlesinger declared that the union is dissatisfied with the present guarantee of employment clause, because it does not protect workers in the outside shops as well as in the inside manufacturing plants.

"We are one union, and we will refuse to make a distinction between inside and outside workers, because they all have to make the same living and the same sacrifices."

The following day another large Cleveland Garment manufacturer capitulated to the demands of striking cloak and dressmakers and signed a union agreement. The firm of S. Korach and Company, Superior and E. 24th Street, employing 50 workers, joined the Cleveland Garment Manu-

facturers' Association and became party to the agreement with the Cleveland Joint Board signed Friday.

Further notable gains marked Saturday's strike activities of the garment workers. Four outside shops employed by the Landesman-Hirschelmer Company, a large non-union shop unaffiliated with the American Plan, were reported completely tied up when workers walked out and joined the union ranks.

The same day a section of workers employed in the American Plan shop of the Riegel Blouse Company walked out and marched to union headquarters, 207 Superior Building, and took out union cards. Defections were also reported from a number of additional contracting shops working for American Plan manufacturers who have refused to deal with the union.

Strikers in front of the Sol Bloomfield plant, the leading open shop concern in the city, from which defections have been steadily reported, were cheered Saturday by the appearance on the picket line of Harry McLaughlin, President of the Cleveland and Ohio State Federation of Labor, and other high union officials. Both federations have gone on record in support of the strikers' struggles against the sweatshop.

Fifteen hundred union workers, celebrating their victory achieved during a four-day struggle, returned to work Monday, Jan. 13, in union shops under the new agreements.

Beginning with Monday the union's efforts were concentrated upon the American Plan shops where the worst forms of sweating, low pay and long hours are charged to prevail.

Benjamin Schlesinger, President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and David Dubinsky, General Secretary-Treasurer, left Cleveland for Toronto Saturday night to participate actively in an organization campaign now under way on behalf of the Toronto cloakmakers.

Another union victory was achieved Monday afternoon with the signing of a collective agreement with the newly formed Cleveland Cloak and Dress Contractors' Association, a group of contractors who will work exclusively for union manufacturers. The agreement provides that the five-day 42-hour week be installed in the 30 contracting shops, party to the agreement, and that these shops be certified as bona fide union shops.

International First Vice-President Salvatore Ninfo arrived from New York on Tuesday to lead the Italian workers during the strike against the American Plan shops. Further defections are reported among non-union workers. Abraham Katovsky, union strike leader, declared that more outside shops employed by the American Plan have had their production paralyzed by the strike during the height of their season.

### INSURANCE ASKED FOR UNEMPLOYED

Boston.—A system of unemployed insurance is provided in a bill presented to the State Legislature by Rev. Roland D. Sawyer, representative from Ware.

The bill calls for a maximum payment of \$1 a day, not to exceed, however, two-thirds of the person's wages, for adults who are laid off until they find other work. Payments would be limited to a maximum of 13 weeks in a single year.

## Cloak Shop Chairmen To Aid Dressmakers

(Continued from page 1)

the bosses a healthy respect for the Union. To-day, he continued, we must duplicate this success in the dress industry, where conditions, for a variety of reasons, are even worse than they were in the cloak trade before the July strike. But though the task of cleaning house in the dress trade is a more difficult one than was the case in the cloak trade, we are in a better position to fight now than last July. And this task is incumbent upon all members of the International, for without the rehabilitation of the Dressmakers' Union the International will be like a house that is only half built up. Moreover, the dress and cloak trades are now so closely interwoven that unless the former changes for the better, the latter is bound to suffer economically. And so even self-interest fronts the cloakmakers to help the dressmakers in their struggle to improve their lot.

The next speaker was Vice-President Pullus Hochman, head of the Dress Department of the Joint, and perhaps the most eloquent speaker in the ranks of the International. Brother Hochman began where Brother Nagler had finished up, namely, by pointing out the close interrelationship between the cloak and dress trade. There are, he declared, thousands of workers in the dress industry who formerly used to be cloakmakers. He then recounted briefly the story of the Dressmakers' Union, its former greatness and glory and its present decline, a decline brought about by the union-wrecking Communists, as well as by various other causes peculiar to the dress industry. The speaker wound up with an eloquent appeal to the cloak shop chairmen to be "part and parcel" of the approaching dress strike. "Be prepared to do your part," he exclaimed, "and I am confident that we shall be able to duplicate in the dress industry the glorious feat which the cloakmakers performed last July."

The last speaker was Brother Benjamin Schlesinger, President of the International, whose arrival in the hall earlier in the evening was the occasion of a great ovation. Brother Schlesinger's speech was a mastery and business-like summary of the situation in the women's garment industry throughout the country. He began by pointing out that in 1920 the International had nearly 125,000 members, and expressed his confidence that

if every one were to do his duty, we could again have that many members and be able to effect the complete organization of the industry, at least in the larger garment centers.

Time was, he reminded his hearers, when the International, upon learning that there was a coal strike, helped the striking miners with a contribution of a hundred thousand dollars. We also helped the steel workers and others on similar occasions; so will not the cloakmakers now come to the aid of their closely allied brothers of the dress industry?

Moreover, he went on to say, the cloakmakers stand to benefit directly from a victorious dress strike. Certain demands—such as a wage increase and the establishment of an unemployment insurance fund maintained at the expense of the employers alone—which the Union found it necessary not to press for the time being, can only be attained in the event of a victorious dress strike. And there are other beneficial measures, such as the further reduction in the number of working hours made necessary by the mechanization of industry, which also depend upon the outcome of the dress strike. He therefore wound up with an appeal to the cloakmakers to stand by their brothers of the dress industry in their hour of need and of opportunity.

President Schlesinger's remarks were greeted with thunderous applause.

A telegram was read from Brother Abraham Baroff expressing his regret that illness made it impossible for him to be present and voicing the hope that the cloakmakers would cooperate with the dressmakers for the welfare of both.

Shop Chairman I. Grosman then introduced the following resolution:

"We, the Shop Chairmen of the Cloak Industry, assembled at a meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 1936, at Webster Hall, congratulate our International upon its determination to effect a thorough organization of the Dress Industry."

"Should a General Strike be called we hereby pledge to devote our full energy and vigor to help in the establishment of union standards throughout the Dress Industry and to make this strike a success, as we did in the recent Cloakmakers' Strike."

The resolution was unanimously adopted, following which the meeting adjourned.

## DRESSMAKERS

OPERATORS, FINISHERS, DRAPERS, EXAMINERS and CLEANERS

In accordance with the

### MANIFESTO

Issued by our Local, every worker in the industry can now join the Union and obtain an up-to-date full fledged member book upon the payment of

\$5.85

THIS MANIFESTO EXPIRES THE 20th OF JANUARY

Dressmakers take advantage of this opportunity. Join the Union now and spare yourself money and time.

Our office will be open this Saturday until 4 P. M.

For the convenience of our members we opened an office at 109 West 38th Street (in the office of Local 10).

Former members of the Union must produce their old union books before they can obtain new ones.

Executive Board Dressmakers Union, Local 22.

JOSEPH Spelman, Secretary

NATHAN MARGOLIS, Chairman.



## News and Events in Local 38

By BORIS DRASIN, Sec'y-Manager

Our organization drive among the unorganized custom dressmakers and tailors is growing ever stronger. More non-union workers than ever before visit our office. Some come for the purpose of consulting the officers as to how to organize their shop; some to join us as co-operators and some to join as members of our Local 38.

Two recent organization mass meetings were held for the dressmakers. At one Mary Drier presided and Rose Schneiderman spoke. At this same meeting Leila Newcomb of the Association to Promote Proper Housing for Girls pointed out that it is impossible to live decently and respectably for less than \$25 a week in New York City. The majority of private dressmakers are averaging considerably less than this. At the other meeting the dressmakers were addressed by Ruth Hardy of the Teachers' Union and Theresa Wolfson, author of "The Woman in Industry." Every meeting shows an increase in attendance, in interest and in co-operating members.

Our activities among the unorganized in our trade have called forth wide interest in many socially liberal circles and in the press. Articles and even editorials were printed in the leading newspapers and magazines of the country. It is but natural that our own International has lent strength to our work in the past year and is ready and willing to co-operate to even a greater extent with our local. Direct help is already given to us by the International as the time draws near when greater pressure and action will be required to make the open shop employers recognize the Union as the spokesman for their workers.

The dressmakers organization committee met in the Union's headquarters on January 8. On January 15 there was a banquet for Co-Operators. The next mass meeting will be on January 22.

Mary H. Hillier, organizer for Local 38, has just finished a series of talks to the students of the Central Needle Trades Continuation School. The talks covered, very briefly, the history of the needle trade industry, labor laws enforced today and ones that should be passed, anti-injunction bill, old age pension, etc., and the rise of the labor movement, its achievements and ideals. A direct result of the talks was the start of a Union of young boys in one of the large department stores at they were dismissed just after the holidays!

At our last Local meeting the members heard the report of the Cleveland Convention given by the delegates elected by our membership. The members present approved the report and were especially glad to hear that our resolution introduced at convention was enthusiastically accepted by the convention. The resolution called for greater support from the International in our organization campaign and for the authorization of a general strike if necessary.

With great satisfaction I wish to record the harmony and good spirit that prevails among many of our members. This reflected itself in the growing appreciation by the rank and file of the active persons in our Union. As proof of this very fine presents were given by the workers of Hickson to their shop-chairman, Br. Pichert. The tailors of Bergdorf-Goodman presented presents to their Chairman, Br. Edlestein and vice-chairman, Br. Interdonati and arranged a banquet in our meeting rooms for the occa-

sion. Everyone had a good time and all of our officers were invited to the affair and were given the honor to address the shop. There is no doubt that affairs of this kind work in the right direction, stimulate good comradeship among the workers and give more impetus to the chairmen and Union officials to do more and more for the benefit of all concerned.

### BROTHER BAROFF ILL

Owing to his continually falling health, Brother Abraham Baroff, the retiring Secretary-Treasurer of the International, has been ordered to the hospital by his physicians for a ten-day period of observation. He is now at the Beth David Hospital, Lexington Avenue and 113th Street, where it is the ardent wish of his many friends and admirers that his recovery may be speedy and complete.

## DRESSMAKERS, PREPARE!

There is no time to lose.

Every moment counts now.

The Dressmakers' General Strike will be called soon.

The strike which shall make the dressmakers free is around the corner.

Prepare for the hour when the call for the General Strike is issued. Make certain that you and the rest of the workers in your shop join with the tens of thousands of your fellow-workers, so that there will be a complete tie-up in the industry.

### THE GENERAL STRIKE WILL MAKE YOU FREE

This General Strike will free the dressmakers from the tyranny of long hours, low wages, uncertainty of the job, irresponsibility of the employers, which makes the workers the victims of every whim and fancy of the bosses. The General Strike will wipe out sweat shops and sweat shop conditions.

### THE GENERAL STRIKE WILL BRING YOU THIS

The coming Dressmakers' General Strike will bring us the:

Five-Day Forty Hour Week.

Minimum Scale of Wages, guaranteeing every worker a decent living. Right to the Job.

Settlement of piece prices by a price committee elected by the workers of the shop.

Unemployment Insurance.

Responsibility of the jobber for conditions in contracting shops.

Abolition of the sweat shop.

### IT IS UP TO YOU

It is up to you to make the coming General Strike short and effective.

### YOU CAN DO THE SAME

The dressmakers' strike, which was declared last July, lasted only two weeks and accomplished all that it set out to accomplish.

This was because before the strike thousands and thousands of cloakmakers came back to the fold of the Union. When the strike was called, over thirty thousand men and women responded as one man, paralyzing the entire industry. The employers had only one alternative and that was to settle with the Union and concede the just demands of the workers.

The dressmakers' strike can easily be a repetition of the Cloakmakers' Strike, if you act in the same manner as the cloakmakers did.

### JOIN THE UNION AT ONCE

In order to give you and all other dressmakers an opportunity to join the Union without delay, the Dressmakers' Locals of the Joint Board will, for a limited time, take in members at a very low initiation fee.

Take advantage of this.

Operators, finishers, drapers, cleaners, etc., report to the Dressmakers' Local No. 22, 130 East 25th Street.

All Italian workers report to the Italian Dressmakers' Union, Local No. 89, 36 West 28th Street.

All pressers report to Pressers' Local, Local No. 35, 60 West 35th Street.

All cutters report to the Amalgamated Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, 109 West 38th Street.

### DO YOUR SHARE

Sisters and Brothers! You, who work in the shops, know the uncertainty, suffering and humiliation you face to-day.

You know that the only way out of the present chaotic condition in the dress industry is a General Strike.

You know that only a strong and powerful Union can give us Union Standards and Union conditions in the dress industry.

The only thing, therefore, left for you to do is to join the Union at once. Convince all the workers of your shop to do likewise and be ready for the General Strike.

When the hour comes and the General Strike is declared, join all like one, for a swift struggle and a lasting victory.

JOINT BOARD CLOAK AND DRESSMAKERS' UNIONS.

130 East 25th Street

;;

;;

New York

## Chicago Garment Union Extends Agreement With Employers

Bials, Rabinowitz and Novack Elected Business Agents—Many Garment Workers Turn Out to Vote

(Special to Justice by B. BIALIS)

Chicago, Jan. 3.—At a well attended joint meeting of all executive boards and all shop chairmen which took place yesterday it was decided to extend the present agreement between our Union and the Cloak Manufacturers' Association. The meeting was preceded by a conference last Thursday between representatives of the Cloak, Dress, and Raincoat Makers' Joint Board and those of the Cloak Manufacturers' Association relative to a new agreement for the coming year. At that conference the representatives of the association submitted certain proposals to the Union's spokesmen. The elections for business agents of

the Joint Board, which took place Friday, January 3, were participated in by a surprisingly large number of members. The surprise is all the greater when it is remembered that many are not working and so do not come to the garment center. All day Friday the headquarters of the Joint Board were besieged by hundreds of garment workers who had come to vote. Many had to stand in line for a long time before their turn came to vote.

In all, 1,247 votes were cast for the six candidates on the ballot. The following were elected: Morris Bials, 820 votes; A. Rabinowitz, 606, and Max Novack, 550.

## Strike of Button And Novelty Makers Paralyzes Entire Trade

About 500 button and novelty workers went on strike in New York on Tuesday, Jan. 14. This is about 95 per cent of all the workers in the trade. The strike paralyzed 63 button and novelty shops, among which are all of the 54 shops that belong to the employers' association. The strike was called by the Button and Novelty Makers' Union, Local 132, I. L. G. W. U.

In response to the Union's call for a strike, practically all the workers in the trade left their respective shops and marched to strike headquarters. Here the first strike meeting was held, at which the strikers were addressed by Norman Thomas, Vice-President Halpern, and Business Agent Morris Greenglass.

Twenty-four of the Association shops settled with the Union on the very first day of the strike.

The strikers comprise workers of various nationalities and races, including a considerable number of colored people; yet there is a remarkable spirit of solidarity among them and all expect the strike to be won.

## Local 2 Elects Officers

The Cloak and Suit Operators' Union, Local 2, I. L. G. W. U., had an election on Tuesday, January 11, for the purpose of choosing the following officers: A Chairman, a Manager-Secretary, eleven Business Agents, and an Executive Board. As we go to press, the count has not been completed and only part of the returns are available. These show that Nathan Hines was elected Manager-Secretary, and the following were elected Business Agents: B. Moser, B. Gollob, M. J. Ashbes, I. Atkins, Saul Metz, J. Miller, H. Chancer, I. Black, J. Stern, I. Wachtel and Charles Nash.

The election was supervised by the Elections and Objections Committee of Local 2, consisting of the following: Isidor Gold, chairman; Morris J. Stern, W. Wachter, N. Kushner, S. Levine, L. Katz, J. Sackin, M. Herschkovitz, H. Rossman, H. Smolin and A. Chernawsky.

### SICKNESS OF LABOR GAINED

Washington.—The mortality rate among industrial employes was higher from sickness during the first three months of 1929 than in the same period of any year since 1920, according to the United States Public Health Service.

# JUSTICE

A Labor Journal

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A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

DR. B. HOFFMAN, Editor

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## EDITORIALS

### The Great Success of the Referendum

The referendum proved to be a great success. A larger number of members participated in it than the greatest optimists had expected. It was a real popular vote and those elected may justly feel proud of their election.

To be sure, the big vote was partly due to the vigorous campaign of education conducted within the Union, but that is as it should be. There ought to be a campaign to get the membership to vote. Indeed, such a campaign to get out a big vote is one of the arguments in favor of the referendum. It is a good way to get the rank and file interested in the affairs of the Union.

Naturally, if the rank and file had been wholly indifferent about the referendum, even the most vigorous propaganda would have been unable to bring out such a big vote. Those who really took no interest whatever in the referendum did not come to vote in spite of all our propaganda. In general, there is no issue that is capable of arousing the interest of all the members of the Union so that every one of them will come to vote. Even when the question is one of calling a strike, or of raising the dues, not everybody comes to vote. And surely these are questions that ought to interest everybody.

Hence every one who is at all familiar with elections in unions must admit that the vote in the referendum was extraordinarily large. And this shows clearly that the rank and file of our Union wanted the referendum, and that the Cleveland Convention acted in full accord with the wishes of our members when it inaugurated the referendum.

### Good News from the Dressmakers' Union

The members of our International will surely be glad to learn that the appeal of the Dressmakers' Union to the workers of the dress industry has met with warm response and is bringing good results. The influx of new members into the Union is assuming ever larger proportions. Nor is it only individual workers who are coming to join the Union; whole shops are doing it.

This is gratifying news. It indicates that the forthcoming strike of the New York dressmakers is sure to meet with quick success.

Neither the Dressmakers' Union nor the International ever doubted that the great mass of workers of the dress industry were waiting for a strike that would organize the dress industry and improve their lot. We were sure that the moment the call to strike was issued, it would be received with enthusiasm by the workers of the entire dress industry and that they would flock to join the Union. But we wanted them to enter the ranks of the Union before the strike was called.

The Union has no doubt that the strike will be won once it is called. But the Union wants the strike to be won in the shortest time possible. The Union wants the workers to gain as much as possible, and to suffer as little as possible, by the strike. Hence it wants to avoid a long and protracted strike. But a short and victorious strike is possible only when the Union is big and strong. For then the manufacturers realize that their fight is a hopeless one, that it will bring them nothing but harm, and they decide to settle with the Union at the earliest possible.

The strength of a Union, however, expresses itself only in the number of its members. The larger its membership, the greater its influence and the more the manufacturers respect it. And so, when we observe now how great is the number of new members who join the Union, we find in it a double cause for rejoicing. We see that the workers of the dress industry have finally come to realize that the Union is their sole prop, that only when they are organized will they be able to improve their lot. And we see likewise that the strike which will presently be called in the dress industry will score an early success. Already now we can predict with certainty that the strike call will be heeded by all the dressmakers and that they will walk out of the shops to a man.

The active members of the Dressmakers' Union have, accordingly, but one duty before them now: to disseminate the appeal of the Union as widely as possible among the workers of the dress trade and to bring more and more new members into the Union before the strike is called. Every member must now do organizing work and serve the Union according to his ability. And if each and every one will do his duty by the Union, the strike is sure to meet with immediate success.

### The Victory of the Cleveland Cloak and Dress Makers

The victory of the Cleveland cloak and dress makers is an important step forward in the rehabilitation of the International. From their latest strike the garment workers of Cleveland have learned anew that when the workers are united and have a strong union behind them, they can more easily win better terms for themselves.

By their victorious strike the Cleveland cloak and dress makers have gained a working week of five days instead of five and a half days, and of forty-two hours in place of forty-four. Another gain scored by them is that the manufacturers who give out work to contractors are henceforth to be responsible for a week's wages to the workers employed by their contractors. Still another gain of the strike is that the inside manufacturers are hereafter to confine their outside work exclusively to contractors who run union shops, and that preference is to be given to Cleveland garment workers before work is sent to out-of-town contractors. These are quite important gains which will materially improve the lot of the Cleveland cloak and dress makers.

As a result of the strike, moreover, two large manufacturers, who hitherto ran non-union shops, have joined in the agreement with the Union, and the recently formed contractors' association has entered into contractual relations with the Union. Thus, thanks to the strike, the Union's control now extends over most of the ladies' garment industry in Cleveland. Only five dress manufacturers are still holding out, and against them the Union is now concentrating its forces to compel them to come to terms with it.

It is possible that the fight against these die-hards among the Cleveland garment manufacturers will continue for some time, but the Union is prepared to carry on the fight as long as it is necessary. The Union's effort to combat the scab shops and to stamp out the sweatshop from the ladies' garment industry has been greatly facilitated by the victorious strike of our Cleveland brothers. And the cloak and dress makers of Cleveland know that they are not alone in the fight, that they have behind them the entire International, which is determined to wage a relentless war against the sweatshop wherever it may be found and whatever disguise it may wear.

### The Convention of the Furriers' Union

On Monday, January 13, there opened in Montreal the convention of the Furriers' International Union.

It cannot be said that the furriers have come to their latest convention with hearts full of gladness. The last two years have been very trying for the furriers. It was the Furriers' Union where the Communists wrought the greatest havoc. It required a great deal of energy and effort to restore the union from the ruins which the Communists had left behind them. For not only had the union been wrecked, but the fur trade in general had become a nest of scabs.

But if the furriers have succeeded in rehabilitating their union, they have not yet succeeded in restoring order in the industry and reestablishing in all fur shops the union standards which had prevailed in them before the Communists perpetrated their pogrom upon the Furriers' Union.

But the worst thing of all is that the present winter has been a particularly bad one for the furriers. The fur trade is this winter passing through a very severe crisis. One feels as though the whole fur trade has collapsed. And naturally, the result of this great crisis is widespread unemployment among the furriers.

We hope, however, that the crisis in the fur industry will not last long and that the lot of the furriers will improve. At any rate, there is nothing the convention of the Furriers' Union can do to eliminate the crisis. But the convention has before it a whole series of important union and trade questions which it must consider and settle.

In the past two years the furriers had to exert all their energy to rebuild their union which the Communists had wrecked. Now, however, they will be able to apply their organized strength to restore order in the fur industry and to see that the union standards which formerly prevailed in it are again strictly observed. This, as we understand it, is really the chief task before the convention.

As the convention is still in its early stages at the time of this writing, we wish it the utmost success in its deliberations and hope that it will contribute a great deal toward the strengthening of the Furriers' Union and the amelioration of the lot of the furriers.

### The Southern Labor Conference

The eyes of organized labor in America and of all friends of organized labor were recently turned to Charlotte, N. C., where a special conference of the American Federation of Labor met on Tuesday, January 7.

The object of the conference, which was presided over by President William Green, was to devise plans for the launching of an effective campaign to organize the wage workers of the South.

The tragic plight of the Southern workers and the inhuman exploitation of labor which goes on in that section of the country have become sufficiently well known to the American people through the strikes and the shedding of workers' blood in the textile industry of the South.

For a variety of reasons the Southern wage workers have unfortunately been neglected. Most of them are unorganized and they are being exploited in the most brutal manner.

The Southern textile worker earns from nine to fourteen



# From Time To Time

By DR. B. HOFFMAN (ZIVYON)

President Hoover has received reports from various industries throughout the country to the effect that 1929 is going to be a year of great prosperity. From these reports it appears, namely, that the manufacturers and merchants of the United States are planning to invest five billion dollars this year in new industrial and business ventures. And five billion dollars is a whole lot of money.

And when I hear good news about prosperity, I like to believe it. For certainly we are better off with prosperity than without prosperity. All I should like to know is when prosperity will arrive and when it will be possible to catch a glimpse of it. For at present things look far from rosy. There is no work, we are told. And not only in the cloak and dress trades, but in other trades as well. But since we are assured from all sides that things will improve, I will believe it. Better to hope for the best than to expect the worst.

In general, it is hard to tell what the new year has in store for us. Judging by his appearance during the few days he has been among us, Mr. New Year would seem to be no different from his predecessor. And I should like to ask him, if he can do no better than his predecessor, that he at least do no worse.

Come to think of it, the past year left behind it a few good things for which it deserves to be remembered kindly.

Let us begin with our International. During the past year it began to recover from the havoc wrought in it by the Communists. The Cloakmakers' Union was rehabilitated and a beginning was made in the rehabilitation of the Dressmakers' Union. 1929 will therefore occupy a place of honor in the annals of the International.

Last year will also be remembered kindly by the whole Jewish labor movement of America because in that year the Communists suffered their worst defeat. The Cloakmakers' Union was completely puppeted of them, while in the other unions, where the Communists did manage to retain a slight foothold, they kept discreetly in the background. They are neither heard nor seen.

For the Communists of this country the past year was a very bad one. The American Communist Party underwent last year the most serious operation of its young life. It was simply bled white by that operation and is unable to recover. It remains a mere shadow of its former self. It has lost its most active and most intelligent members, its founders and leaders.

And when the Communist house is on fire, the labor movement warms its hands at the flames and hopes that they will gain in intensity.

The mutual extermination which took place last year in the ranks of

the Communists was so thorough that an insignificant handful is all that is left of the American Communist Party.

The Dressmakers' Union, which only a short time ago suffered most from the Communist plague, is now hardly aware of the existence of Communists. And when preparations are being made for the forthcoming strike of the New York dressmakers, no one is the Union even pauses to think of what the Communists intend to do. It is known that their influence is near the zero mark, and that if they will give orders to scab, no one will pay attention to them.

And since we are speaking of the good things which 1929 brought us, mention should also be made of the fact that toward the close of the year the famous Communist cafeteria on Union Square went bankrupt and closed its doors.

That was more than a Communist cafeteria. It was the most important part of the American Communist movement.

In the cafeteria, at all times of the day, there was always a crowd of Communist loafers on hand who were ready for every demonstration and protest meeting whenever it was necessary to hold one in Union Square. And had the cafeteria survived, it is there that the Communist revolution in America would have started. It is there that the first signal would have been given, and it is from there that the first Red Brigade would have issued forth, which, of course, would first of all have marched upon the building of our International Union.

It seems to me that down in Moscow they did not properly appreciate the great importance of the Communist cafeteria on Union Square. Moscow, apparently, did not know that if Union Square was destined to become the Red Square of New York, it could do so only through the Communist cafeteria. Had Moscow known this, it would surely not have let the Communist cafeteria of New York go to pieces.

The Communist movement declined last year not only in America, but in all other countries. It was almost entirely wiped out in England; it met with disaster in Sweden, and went to pieces in Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia used to be a Communist stronghold. There the Communist Party was much stronger than the Socialist Party. But today the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is a wreck and no longer cuts any figures. The last great split in the Czechoslovakian Communist Party occurred toward the end of 1929.

It may perhaps also be worth while to relate that in Austria, the chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Alfred Ziegler, has gone over to the Socialist Party. But

then the Communists never had any luck in Austria.

However, it is not enough to tell only of the Communist decline. We must also tell of the Socialist advance during the past year.

The triumph of the British Labor Party is the most important Socialist event of 1929. But the Socialist movement scored minor and major successes in every European country. Even in this country the past year brought a great Socialist success. The large number of votes cast for Norman Thomas in New York municipal elections last November is the most important event of the last few years in the history of the Socialist movement in America.

As you see, the past year was in some way quite a good one. And so I say that if the new year cannot be better than the old, let it at least not be worse.

However, there is also a great deal of bad to tell about the past year. The number of the unemployed in America has greatly increased last year. The coal industry, in particular, was hard hit. The big and powerful Miners' Union was almost entirely wrecked. It is today only a shadow of what it used to be. Unemployment on the one hand and internal dissensions on the other have played havoc with the once great Miners' Union. The Miners' Union, which formerly had about 400,000 members and was the biggest and strongest single union in the American Federation of Labor, today does not possess even a fourth of its former membership.

This is a particularly hard blow to the American Federation of Labor. The loss is not merely one of members, but far more of prestige.

The prestige of the American Federation has always suffered from the fact that it does not control the major industries of the country. The metal industry is virtually unorganized, while the railroad workers, who are organized, do not for the most part belong to the Federation. The only major industry which the Federation did control was mining, and now that, too, has practically slipped out of its hands.

However, in order not to end on a note of pessimism, let me mention another good thing for which the past year deserves to be spoken well of.

The five-day working week was last year established in quite a number of industries. Among them is the building industry.

It must be noted, however, that in most of the cases where the working week was reduced to five days, the volume of production was not diminished thereby. The workers turned out as much work as before. In some factories, production even increased; the workers turned out more work in the new five-day week than in the old six-day week. The manufacturers themselves admit it.

This, however, is not an advantage. True, the fact that production did not decline because of the five-day week and in some cases actually increased, will make it easier for the workers

to secure the five-day week in those industries where it has not yet been inaugurated. But just now it is to the interest of the working people that production—i. e., the amount of work a worker turns out in a day or in a week—shall decline, else the army of the unemployed will increase still more instead of diminishing.

As a matter of fact, the reduction of the working week has not everywhere spelled the reduction of the actual working time. In many enterprises the working time was not reduced by the introduction of the five-day week. The workers must work as many hours in five days as they previously did in six days. But this won't do. The shorter week must also bring with it a reduction of the actual working time. There is need not only of more days of rest per week, but also of more leisure hours per day. For the most important problem confronting organized labor today is how to check the growth of the army of the unemployed, whose ranks are constantly being swelled by the introduction of new machinery and other labor-saving devices.

When one reads the accounts of how the American marines and police have lately been behaving in Haiti, one feels as though Haiti were located in the textile district of North Carolina.

To be sure, in North Carolina the police, the militia, and the courts are acting a great deal more brutally than in Haiti. In North Carolina they acquit murderers and condemn mill workers who would not permit themselves to be murdered. But that can easily be explained. In Haiti there was no direct clash between capital and labor; the black Haitians were merely given a taste of American imperialism. In North Carolina, on the other hand, there is a conflict between capital and labor, and the direct servants of capital are always more brutal and murderous than its indirect servants. In general, however, the carryings on of the American marines and police in Haiti are quite in keeping with the best traditions of North Carolina justice.

When I was in Leipzig for the first time, I was quite surprised to hear the people of that city employ certain French words which one never hears in other parts of Germany. I inquired for the reason of it and was told that those words were survivals from the days when Leipzig was occupied by the army of Napoleon I.

Napoleon's troops, I believe, did not stay long in Leipzig and since then more than a hundred years have elapsed, yet certain French words linger on in the language of the Leipzigers.

I was reminded of this while reading the referendum literature circulated among the cloakmakers. I thought: The Communist occupation of the Cloakmakers' Union did not last so very long and they have long since been dislodged from it, and yet how many of their words still linger on in the language of the cloakmakers!

dollars a week less than the Northern textile worker and he works from three to four hours a day longer. But that is not all. Women workers are paid still worse, while little children are permitted to work in the mills where they are exploited in the most heartless and shameful manner.

Nor does this inhuman exploitation of human labor concern only the workers of the South, but the workers of the North as well. The Northern textile workers are being deprived of employment. For it is only natural that the textile industry should remove from the North to the South, where work is so cheap and where the exploitation of labor is so unrestrained.

Still more grave is the possibility that other industries may follow the example of the textile industry. Thus the unorganized South may become a great menace to organized labor throughout the country. The South must therefore be organized. But no matter how good the plans may be which the

Charlotte conference of the A. F. of L. adopted for the organization of the South, it ought to be clear to all that the best plans will not work unless they are backed with plenty of money.

The organizing work in the South must be carried on on a large scale. Many strikes will have to be called and a stubborn fight waged. Experience has shown that the Southern workers can be organized. All that is necessary is the means to defray the cost of an extensive organization campaign will entail. And the only ones who can raise the funds necessary for such a campaign are the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

All the friends and well wishers of organized labor in America cannot but wish the American Federation of Labor the utmost success in its noble effort to organize the wage workers of the South.

# Complete and Tabulated Returns of the Referendum

LOCALS	SCHLESINGER Yes No	DEBINSKY Yes No	NINYO Yes No	HOCHMAN Yes No	HELLER Yes No	KIRTZMAJ Yes No	BRESLAW Yes No	SNYDER Yes No	NAGLER Yes No	FEINBERG Yes No	HALPERI Yes No
2	1499 134	1866 204	1156 211	1013	1013	860	1027	791	1378	893	864
3	61 33	89 4	53 9	51	35	40	50	24	57	30	31
9	672 82	611 85	598 103	588	471	696	481	390	735	394	556
10	1670 48	1841 29	1498 62	1198	1110	406	1206	250	1620	1002	498
17	1045 13	989 27	977 15	426	1196	121	1071	587	1095	1035	563
20	463 21	469 11	443 22	478	462	37	393	451	360	400	505
21	69 ..	68 ..	63 2	58	68	20	62	14	66	53	58
22	633 50	600 60	512 76	619	356	323	440	366	570	354	348
23	171 3	160 6	152 7	105	155	36	181	86	171	174	69
35	3012 32	2985 48	2902 46	1192	2147	301	3144	1946	2210	2101	354
38	139 16	137 15	117 25	160	51	131	40	34	137	25	55
41	680 ..	615 ..	593 ..	451	718	184	688	443	638	602	756
48	3826 4	3771 8	3860 9	2056	3630	48	3608	44	3572	3587	3601
62	360 57	323 49	336 53	20	498	27	476	592	21	471	490
64	11 ..	11 ..	11 ..	4	11	9	10	10	11	11	..
66	160 66	224 7	207 10	230	88	201	205	39	217	72	141
82	130 3	130 3	123 6	75	132	24	131	109	132	126	39
89	1134 11	1123 6	1234 17	1156	961	162	1032	137	1066	830	880
91	380 65	381 49	366 39	296	213	218	116	156	278	132	123
Baltimore, Local 4 ..	48 ..	48 ..	48 ..	46	47	3	48	39	19	32	46
Boston, Joint Board ..	397 20	392 18	371 20	274	323	98	344	288	165	330	119
Boston, Local 24 ....	58 3	30 31	58 2	41	60	27	60	57	27	59	47
Chicago Joint Board ..	473 18	462 18	456 18	442	177	161	338	95	428	243	297
Cleveland Joint Board ..	942 ..	846 ..	862 ..	848	103	587	377	119	509	363	463
Conn., Local 127 ....	37 1	38 ..	38 ..	38	38	2	35	4	38	32	37
Long Island Locals ..	254 ..	254 ..	254 ..	249	255	9	252	15	252	249	250
Los Angeles, Local 65 ..	42 2	41 2	34 2	36	20	20	34	17	36	21	25
Montreal Joint Board ..	392 ..	392 ..	392 ..	386	380	40	375	47	387	381	376
New Jersey Locals ..	477 4	477 4	477 3	477	474	10	472	12	473	469	469
Phila. Joint Board ..	335 5	332 7	318 10	342	285	78	284	303	320	260	95
Philadelphia, Local 50 ..	233 11	219 9	206 8	213	44	160	159	63	164	48	195
San Francisco, Loc. 8 ..	34 1	32 2	31 2	32	6	25	22	18	26	26	15
St. Louis Joint Board ..	81 2	81 2	81 2	75	77	15	78	9	76	78	66
Toledo, Local No. 67 ..	55 ..	52 ..	54 ..	53	19	50	43	36	46	12	42
Toronto Joint Board ..	157 2	156 2	149 4	152	31	99	129	40	136	77	124
Westchester County ..	197 ..	197 ..	197 ..	193	192	17	191	38	191	189	192
Worcester, Local 75 ..	17 ..	15 ..	15 ..	12	12	7	14	17	17	11	10
TOTAL .....	20353 677	19739 706	19140 783	14078	15856	5296	17666	7687	17646	15185	12799

## Liberties Union to Appeal Convention in N. Y. Leaffet Cases

Disturberly conduct convictions against two Union Theological Seminary students, arrested when distributing leaflets to garment workers at the non-union Bergdorf-Goodman shop on Fifth Avenue, will be appealed by the American Civil Liberties Union. C. D. Williams will represent the defendants.

The appeals will be based upon the contention that the decision against the defendants is against the evidence. Magistrate McKinn found the two students guilty and gave them suspended sentences, although witnesses testified that there had been no disorder or interference with pedestrians or traffic.

It is expected that the appeal of these cases will decide for the magistrate's court what has already been decided for the police by an agreement with the Civil Liberties Union. The police heads have agreed that the distribution of union organizing literature is not "disorderly conduct" or other violation of law. Police have promised not to interfere in the future. The convictions for disorderly conduct preceded the police agreement.

A suit for false arrest by Carol Weiss King, one of the Civil Liberties

Union attorneys, against a policeman who arrested her when she asked why the distributors of leaflets were being taken in, is also pending.

## People's Tool Campaign To Hold National Convention

The People's Tool Campaign, whose object is to raise funds in America for the economic rehabilitation of the 1,000,000 "declassed" Jews of Soviet, will hold a national convention in New York City towards the end of next week, according to announcement made by B. C. Vlodeck, chairman of the P. T. C. The convention will last three days. It will open on Friday evening, January 24, with a mass meeting at Mecca Temple at which Lieutenant-Governor Herbert E. Lehman and Felix M. Warburg are scheduled to be the principal speakers.

After the opening session at Mecca Temple, the convention will meet at Beethoven, where it will be in session on January 25 and 26.

During the six months that the People's Tool Campaign has been in operation, the sum of \$100,000 has been raised by popular subscription in the United States and turned over to the "Ort" organization for the establishment of workshops for declassed Jews in Russia.

## Women's Trade Union League Forum to Discuss Problem of Aged Poor

"What Shall We Do With the Aged Poor" is the subject to be discussed at the Monthly Forum of the New York Women's Trade Union League on Saturday afternoon, January 18, 1930, at 4 o'clock, at the League House, 317 Lexington Avenue, New York.

Bishop Francis J. McConnell, President of the American Association for Old Age Security, and Senator Seabury C. Mastick, Chairman of the New York State Legislative Commission on Old Age Security, will be the speakers on this subject.

All members and their friends are invited to attend this Forum to hear those two eminent speakers.

## Drive to Launch Youth Magazine

At the recent National Convention of the Young People's Socialist League, the Youth Publishing Association (at present composed of New York members only) was authorized to expand on a national scale and initiate a drive for sufficient funds to launch a regular monthly magazine.

Preliminary preparations have been completed, and this week marks the

beginning of the drive. Friends all over the country are being approached to give as much as they can towards this fund. The object of the drive is to raise enough money to underwrite the first year's publication and leave enough towards a successful start the second year.

The chairman of the drive is Abe Belsky. All checks and monies should be sent to him at 7 East 15th St. (Room 601), New York City.

## BUILDERS ACCEPT 5-DAY WORK WEEK

San Francisco.—The Builders' Exchange accepted the five-day week for mechanics employed on building construction. The same wage rates will apply, and Saturday forenoon will be "considered a holiday and subject to the usual payment for overtime (except that Saturday forenoon will not be considered a holiday for those employed on mechanical emergency repairs)."

The Exchange declares: "It seems advisable that both employer and employee should have the opportunity of testing the five-day week for building mechanics."

## ADMIT LOW WAGES

New York.—A wage rate for carpenters as low as 80 cents an hour was admitted by contractors on city subway work. Union carpenters urge that their rate of \$1.50 be recognized.



# Vote for General Officers of the International Union

ANTONINI			GREENBERG			KAPLAN			WANDER			RUBINBERG		BYALIS		KREINDLER		AMOUR		KRAMER		KIRGNER		TOTAL
												Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	VOTES CAST
850	542	1085	844	744	56	705	44	685	52	727	56	676	48	682	44	2,006								
32	16	34	45	34	1	35	1	26	10	34	..	30	2	33	1	65								
368	325	545	353	315	22	298	21	298	22	277	25	278	23	275	18	1,079								
605	402	375	907	628	47	764	38	950	34	562	55	521	42	317	64	1,889								
585	70	111	647	354	..	342	..	322	..	336	..	315	..	305	..	1,228								
73	342	83	446	274	2	274	2	278	1	304	2	346	11	256	1	511								
44	9	21	52	49	1	44	..	43	1	43	1	43	1	43	1	69								
467	275	341	378	333	52	304	25	303	23	300	28	288	24	268	25	764								
71	29	31	199	74	3	69	2	70	3	74	2	69	..	71	..	228								
1965	219	319	1684	1706	..	1406	..	1960	..	2160	..	1900	..	302	..	3,269								
133	144	116	38	92	4	83	5	84	3	87	6	79	6	80	3	160								
587	129	110	510	617	..	577	..	563	..	532	..	531	..	517	..	794								
3852	36	35	3568	2806	3	2788	3	2769	3	332	..	531	..	517	..	794								
15	13	11	438	236	20	237	20	230	20	2748	3	2731	3	2720	3	3,911								
10	..	1	10	9	..	9	..	9	..	224	18	225	20	223	21	602								
123	214	198	82	209	3	205	2	195	20	9	..	9	..	9	..	11								
93	19	16	121	111	3	108	2	110	3	204	3	205	2	205	2	249								
1279	323	132	835	961	28	970	7	933	28	108	3	109	2	105	3	139								
266	464	258	115	232	32	210	31	212	29	939	4	923	4	917	5	1,286								
35	7	10	42	40	..	40	..	40	..	214	27	217	21	207	25	556								
226	110	96	121	170	4	185	3	158	4	40	..	37	..	38	..	48								
13	22	24	7	53	..	56	..	56	..	330	8	375	10	135	3	425								
379	401	249	402	347	3	486	15	377	5	59	..	55	..	50	..	62								
662	355	602	317	408	..	702	..	916	..	340	6	364	7	377	7	507								
36	7	4	33	38	..	38	..	38	..	412	..	304	..	296	..	950								
245	7	6	252	255	..	255	..	255	..	38	..	38	..	38	..	38								
25	26	27	24	40	..	40	..	38	1	255	..	255	..	255	..	255								
333	39	79	327	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	..	36	1	37	1	42								
469	8	5	470	474	1	475	1	474	1	474	1	474	1	475	1	478								
283	56	76	282	68	205	245	5	255	4	313	5	249	4	244	4	350								
153	61	171	144	231	13	164	5	169	4	194	6	160	6	158	7	245								
24	19	15	18	28	..	31	..	28	..	29	..	26	1	26	1	60								
72	16	14	72	80	..	80	..	80	..	77	..	77	..	77	..	83								
16	40	47	25	54	..	55	..	53	..	54	..	52	..	53	..	55								
94	60	72	103	128	..	130	..	131	..	151	..	130	..	156	1	160								
188	7	8	163	189	..	189	..	190	..	189	..	189	..	189	..	170								
14	3	7	15	16	..	16	..	15	1	16	..	18	..	15	1	18								
14630	4836	5334	14089	12305	503	12617	232	13235	272	12834	259	12337	239	10154	242	23,181								

## 2,300,000 EMPLOYEES ELIMINATED IN FOUR MAJOR INDUSTRIES BY IMPROVED MACHINERY

### Survey of Unemployment by Noted Economist

Improved machinery in four major industries—farming, manufacturing, railroading and mining—has eliminated about 2,300,000 employees in the last eight years, it is revealed in a survey of unemployment made by Dr. Harry W. Laidler, vice-president of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and just issued by the League for Industrial Democracy, 112 East 19th Street, of which Dr. Laidler is a director.

Dr. Laidler's survey stresses improved machinery as one of the four factors contributing to a permanent unemployment problem. The others, his survey declares, are seasonal unemployment, cyclical unemployment, and, fourth, the discrimination in industry against workers over 40 years of age.

#### Gives Figures on Displacement by Machines

Referring to technological unemployment resulting from improved machinery, Dr. Laidler's survey says:

"Seven men now do the work which formerly required 60 to perform in casting pig iron; 2 men now do the work which formerly required 128 to perform in loading pig iron; 1 man

replaces 42 in operating open-hearth furnaces.

"A brick-making machine in Chicago makes 40,000 bricks in an hour. It formerly took one man 8 hours to make 450.

"In New York from 1914 to 1925 the number of workers in the paper box industry decreased 32 per cent, while the output per wage earned increased 121 per cent.

"It has been estimated there has been a decrease of about 2,300,000 during the last eight years in the number of persons employed in the four major industries—farming, manufacturing, railroading and mining. In 1925, for instance, there were 600,000 factory wage-earners less in New England and the Middle Atlantic States than in 1919.

"Nor has this decrease in the number of workers been attended by a decrease in product. While the output in agriculture has gone down slightly, that in manufacture and in mining has increased about 20 per cent, and the number of freight-ton-miles on the railroads, about 4 per cent."

Dr. Laidler quotes the findings of other economists who declared all in-

dustries touched, more or less, by seasonal unemployment, and continues:

"A recent investigation of eight representative plants in the men's clothing industry showed that over a period of three years the equipment was utilized on the average but 69 per cent of the possible working time. The shoe industry is in a similar situation, where sales in some months run as much as 250 per cent higher than the average, and in others as low as 87 per cent below. In the building trades the Hoover engineers some years ago estimated that the workers were employed about 63 per cent of the year."

During the last 120 years, the survey states, there have been some fifteen cycles of depression and prosperity, "coming with a remarkable degree of regularity." "Every three or four years of late workers have had to tighten their belts, and whether under the Republican or Democratic administrations, go on short rations until the worst of the times were over."

#### Says "Speed-Up" Advances Industrial Dead-Line

The unemployment problems, Dr. Laidler finds, is greatly complicated by the tendency in industry to discard the middle aged worker on the ground that he cannot be speeded up in the same way as can workers in the twenties and thirties. "This is particularly true of our industries engaged in mass production. One Dodge worker expressed it. 'The speed-up sys-

tem is so terrific that after a man is ready for the hospital he is likely to be cast on the industrial scrap-heap to starve."

"At the Highland Park plant of the Ford Company about three-fourths of the men were found to be under 40. It is practically impossible for a man over 40 to get a job there, while men who have reached that age find difficulty in holding their jobs. In a recent investigation in certain steel mills, it was found that the average age of the steel workers was not far from thirty. The problem of the re-employment of the middle aged and old aged worker is one of increasing seriousness."

#### DALE PENSION BILL PASSED BY SENATE

Washington. — The Dale-Leibach bill, which liberalizes the present federal retirement law, passed the Senate without a dissenting vote. The bill passed the last Congress but was given the "pocket veto" by President Coolidge, and now goes to the House, which is expected to act on it at an early date. The sponsors of the bill are confident that it will meet no such tragic end as it did the last time.

The bill raises the maximum retirement annuity from \$1,000 to \$1,200 and permits optional retirement after 30 years' service. It also lowers by two years the age at which employees may retire after such a period of service.

# Two Weeks In Local 10

The Installation Meeting, Jan. 13, Attended by Very Large Gathering In the Large Arlington Hall

This meeting was addressed by Brother Isidore Nagler, General Manager of the Joint Board; Julius Hochman, General Manager of the Dress Department of the Joint Board; Samuel Perlmutter, the newly-elected Manager of our Local, and Brother John C. Ryan.

Following this, a report was submitted by the Election Board, containing the result of the election of local officers, as well as the results of the referendum of the general manager, and the referendum vote. The following is a copy of the report, which was unanimously approved:

## For President

Maurice W. Jacobs	.....1,454
Max Hyman	.....274

## For Vice-President

Jacob Fleisher	.....No Contest
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## For Manager-Secretary

Samuel Perlmutter	.....No Contest
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## For Business Agent

David Fruhling	.....No Contest
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## For Inner Guard

Sam Massover	.....No Contest
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## For Business Agents to Joint Board

Max Gordon	.....1,572
Louis Stulberg	.....1,453
Julius Levine	.....1,243
Sam Linder	.....1,236
Arthur Weinstein	.....536

The four receiving the highest number of votes were elected.

## For Executive Board Members

Meyer Friedman	.....1,280
Max Stoller	.....1,208
Philip Ansel	.....1,184
Louis Pankin	.....1,181
Ben Evry	.....1,136
Harry Zaslowsky	.....1,065
Harry Friedman	.....1,047
Morris Feller	.....1,036
Louis Forer	.....993
Israel Ostroff	.....868
Louis Diamond	.....718
Charles Beaver	.....698
Harry Goldstein	.....528
Mike Minsky	.....513
Harry Rosenblum	.....449
Harry Blum	.....385
Rachmiel Shagerman	.....169

The ten receiving the highest number of votes were elected.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### For Executive Board Members

Fred Ratner	.....No Contest
Morris Wolasky	.....No Contest

### General Manager of the Joint Board

Isidore Nagler	.....1,597 votes for and 225 blanks.
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### ELECTION RESULTS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### For President

Benjamin Schlesinger	.....1,670	48
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#### For Secretary-Treasurer

David Dubinsky	.....1,641	29
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#### For First Vice-President

Salvatore Ninfo	.....1,495	62
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#### For Vice-President

Isidore Nagler	.....1,620
Joe Breslin	.....1,206
Julius Hochman	.....1,193
Jacob Heller	.....1,110
L. Feinberg	.....1,002
Harry Wander	.....907
Leigt Antonini	.....605
Joseph Halpern	.....493
N. Kirtzman	.....406
Harry Greenberg	.....402
Benjamin Kaplan	.....375

#### Out of Town

Charles Kreindler	.....950	34
Bialis	.....764	38
Elias Reiberg	.....628	47

Max Amdur	.....562	35
Kramer	.....521	42
Abraham Kirsner	.....317	64

The amendment to the Constitution with regard to the Old Age Pension was also read as revised and put into legal terminology by our counselor, Morris Rothenberg, and was unanimously adopted.

Immediately after this, Brother Stoller was called upon to install President Jacobs. Brother Jacobs then called upon Brother John C. Ryan to install the newly-elected Executive Board and officers, as well as the additional Executive Board members, namely Brothers Harry Wachtell, Nathan Saparstein and Joel Abramowitz, who were appointed by the President, and Brothers Jack Kops, Michael Ondusko, and Louis Gilbert, who were appointed to the Central Trades and Labor Council.

After the installation ceremony Brother Isidore Nagler addressed the meeting. He spoke of the importance of the coming strike and urged the cutters to do their bit whenever the general strike is called in the dress industry. Brother Julius Hochman also addressed this meeting and he, too, dwelt upon the present situation in the dress industry and expressed the hope and conviction that the cutters would be on the job to do their bit, and live up to their past reputation. Lastly Brother Samuel Perlmutter, the newly-elected Manager of our Local, was called upon and he was received most enthusiastically. He said in part:

"It is needless for me to tell you how much I cherish the honor you bestowed upon me, by electing me as Manager of your Local.

"For one thing, I have been associated with this organization for the most part of my life. I have gone through some very stormy periods, during which the existence of Local 10 was threatened, and when it required the most calm and tactful judgment, as well as the highest degree of loyalty, you always demonstrated it to the fullest extent. You always manifested your determination to maintain your organization by extending your confidence and cooperation to me, and accepting my advice, as well as the advice of those who were associated with me in the capacity of leadership. For, after all is said and done, there is no greater remuneration for any one officer within the labor movement, other than the cooperation and confidence reposed in him, and this I must say, I have received in abundance.

"Only in the recent general strike conducted in the cloak industry when I recollect the slender and gaunt figure of our President Schlesinger, who stood at the helm of our organization as the Chief Executive, who was ready to give his life if necessary, in order to carry through our struggle to a successful conclusion. I was moved with such enthusiasm and encouragement, that I could not see anything else ahead of us, but the victory which eventually was the outcome of our struggle.

"It is also in the light of this that I feel that a great deal more can be done in the International at large, and our organization in particular if our membership continues in the same degree of harmony and solidarity.

"One of the chief reasons that accounts for the fact that our local was able to weather all the storms that attempted to sweep our local out of existence, is that there was a streak of loyalty deeply rooted in the hearts of our membership who stood like the

Rock of Gibraltar, at all times ready to stand up in defense of their organization.

"It is because of this, that one is moved to continue to serve as an officer of such an organization, and it is because of this, that I am gratified to be with you and render my services.

"There is a great deal of work yet ahead of us. Notwithstanding the victory accomplished in the recent strike, there are still a great number of sub-manufacturers who are doing their own cutting, and this is a problem with which we will have to cope in the future with so much more determination to abolish it. The local will have to appoint controllers to visit these sub-manufacturing shops in order to ascertain as to who is doing the cutting, and drastic action will be taken against those who violate our agreement on this score."

Owing to the fact that Brother Dubinsky and President Schlesinger were on official business in Cleveland on the night of our Installation Meeting, it was impossible for them to be present. However, they sent us the following telegrams:

"Samuel Perlmutter,  
Manager Cutters Union,  
23 St. Marks Place, N.Y.C.

"Regret inability to attend your installation. It would have indeed been a great pleasure to me to extend in person, congratulations and heartfelt wishes to your newly-elected administration. Sincerely trust that your incoming administration will achieve for your members and for our great organization as much as did the outgoing.

"BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER."

"Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local 10,  
199 West 58th St., N. Y.

"Previous arrangements for conference with Toronto employers tonight prevent me for first time in twelve years from participating in Local 10 installation. Deeply regret my inability to address the cutters on this occasion as secretary treasurer of our International to which position I have been elected through my contact and services in the cutters' organization. It would have been a great honor to me to greet your newly-elected manager and other officers in person. My best wishes are extended to the membership of Local 10 for continued progress and success. I have no doubt that you and your administration will utilize the coming dress strike to improve the work standards and conditions of the dress cutters so that by the end of the coming year Local 10 will find its membership swelled and its organization greater and stronger than ever before.

"DAVID DUBINSKY."

For the last few weeks, especially since the nomination night which took place on Monday, December 23, 1929, our organization is replete with life and activity, and was followed up by a meeting of the dress cutters exclusively, on Monday, January 6, 1930. It was one of the largest meetings of dress cutters in the history of Local 10. Subsequent to that, the elections of general officers of the International, as well as local officers, held on January 7, took place in which over 1,500 members participated and many hundreds of cutters left the polling place without voting, and chose to pay the fine of \$1.00 as decided upon at the membership meeting preceding the elections, rather than to go through the inconvenience of standing on the lines that were overcrowding the polling place to capacity.

Huge Mass Meeting of Cutters Held Jan. 6, 1930

This meeting was attended by some eight hundred or more dress cutters.

Brother Isidore Nagler, the General Manager; Brother Julius Hochman, District Manager; David Dubinsky, Secretary/Treasurer of the International; Samuel Perlmutter, the newly-elected Manager of Local 10, and Brother David Fruhling reported the progress made so far in the preparation for the coming general strike.

Brother Perlmutter, the newly-elected manager of our Local in the course of his address, pointed out that for the past few years the cloak industry has suffered from the most chaotic conditions. Standards in that industry were reduced to the most insignificant degree. The forty-hour week was merely a joke, as most of the houses were working as many as 16 hours, as well as Saturdays and Sundays. There was no extra pay for overtime, and in general all the conditions gained in the many strikes of the past, only remained on paper. The membership at large was demoralized, and as a result of these conditions any improvement in that industry looked absolutely impossible. However, with the entrance of Brother Schlesinger as President of the International, the leadership of that body got together and decided that the only means by which we would remedy this deplorable condition, and to bring about a recovery of this terribly sick industry, as well as to morally elevate the workers is by declaring a general strike, and the results of this strike proved the worth of this plan. . . .

As far as Local 10 is concerned, in the last few weeks many large sized cutting departments were organized. This was done to the great efforts of Brothers David Fruhling, and Philip Oretsky, and in appreciation of their work, a resolution was adopted by the cutters of the shop of Anna Duke, which reads as follows:

"We, the cutters of the firm of Anna Duke of 498 7th Avenue, who have up to the present time been working under non-union conditions, and

"Whereas, through the efforts of the officers of Local 10, we have been organized and are now working a forty-hour week and receiving double pay for overtime and all other union conditions, therefore be it

"Resolved, that we, the cutters of the above mentioned firm go on record as thanking sincerely the officers of Oretsky and all others who have been instrumental in obtaining these conditions for us, and be it further

"Resolved, that we go on record as pledging allegiance to Local 10, to be loyal members and always ready to respond to the call of the Union.

"LONG LIVE LOCAL TEN, and the INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION.

"Fraternally Yours,  
"JACK BACKER,  
"LOUIS ALOVIS,  
"JOHN PLACIDO,  
"L. SCHLENGER,  
"FRANK ANIORELLLO,  
"MAX GUSINO,  
"BARNEY MURINSON."

## Cutters of Local Ten, Attention!

### The Next Regular and Special Meeting

Will be held  
Monday, Jan. 27, 1930

at  
Arlington Hall  
23 St. Marks Place

Special Order of Business will be the Adoption of the \$10.00 tax as per decision of the Convention.

All cutter must attend this meeting without fail.